

under a GHP or LGHP on the basis of current employment status, or in the first full month when no longer so covered, coverage begins on the first day of the month of enrollment or, at the individual's option, on the first day of any of the three following months.

(2) If the individual enrolls in any month of the SEP other than the months specified in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, coverage begins on the first day of the month following the month of enrollment.

[61 FR 40346, Aug. 2, 1996]

§ 406.25 Special enrollment period for volunteers outside the United States.

(a) *General rule.* A SEP, as defined in § 406.24(a)(4) of this subchapter, is provided for an individual that meets the following requirements:

(1) The individual is serving as a volunteer outside of the United States in a program that covers at least a 12-month period.

(2) The individual is in a program that is sponsored by an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(3) The individual can demonstrate that he or she has health insurance that covers medical services that the individual receives outside the United States while serving in the program.

(4) The individual—

(i) At the time he or she first met the requirements of § 406.10 through 406.15 or § 406.20(b), elected not to enroll in premium hospital insurance during the individual's initial enrollment period; or

(ii) Terminated enrollment in premium hospital insurance during a month in which the individual met the requirements of this section for a SEP.

(b) *Duration of SEP.* The SEP is the 6-month period beginning on the first day of the month that includes the date that the individual no longer meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) *Effective date of coverage.* Coverage under a SEP authorized by this section begins on the first day of the month

following the month in which the individual enrolls.

[73 FR 36468, June 27, 2008]

§ 406.26 Enrollment under State buy-in.

(a) *Enrollment of QMBs under a State buy-in agreement—*(1) *Effective date.* Beginning with calendar year 1990, a State may request and be granted a modification of its buy-in agreement to include enrollment and payment of Part A premiums for QMBs (as defined in section 1905(p)(1) of the Act) who can become entitled to Medicare Part A only by paying a premium.

(2) *Amount of premium.* Premiums paid under State buy-in are not subject to increase because of late enrollment or reenrollment.

(b) *Beginning of coverage under buy-in.* The coverage period begins with the latest of the following:

(1) The third month following the month in which the agreement modification covering QMBs is effectuated.

(2) The first month in which the individual is entitled to premium hospital insurance under § 406.20(b) and has QMB status.

(3) The date specified in the agreement modification.

(c) *End of coverage under buy-in.* Buy-in coverage ends with the earlier of the following:

(1) *Death.* Coverage ends on the last day of the month in which the QMB dies.

(2) *Loss of QMB status.* If the individual loses eligibility for QMB status, coverage ends on the last day of the month in which CMS receives the State's notice of ineligibility.

(3) *Termination of buy-in agreement.* If the State's buy-in agreement is terminated, coverage ends on the last day of the last month for which the agreement is in effect.

(4) *Entitlement to premium-free Part A.* If the individual becomes entitled to premium-free Part A, buy-in coverage ends on the last day of entitlement to premium Part A.

(d) *Continuation of coverage: Individual enrollment following termination of buy-in coverage—*(1) *Deemed enrollment.* If coverage under a buy-in agreement